

Mrs. Denise Aranda  
588 Mogollon Circle  
El Paso, TX 79912

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October 19, 2000

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20785

Via Facsimile  
301-827-6870

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Madam or Sir:

Please grant the petition by Farm Sanctuary, docket number 98P0151/CP1, that prohibits the slaughter of downed animals. It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. These inhumane processes cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments. Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Further, that removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

In addition, animals who are too sick or injured to even stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. They pose an increased risk for bacterial contamination, and there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of "BSE" which is also known as "Mad Cow Disease." This disease has been linked to a fatal human illness known as Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

Again, please grant the Farm Sanctuary petition. Thank you for your consideration and time to this issue.

Sincerely,

*Denise Aranda*  
Denise M. Aranda

98P-0151

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